

# BEST PRACTICES TO REDUCE CLASSROOM WASTE



A) One recycling bin and one trash can in each classroom, placed right next to each other and located near the classroom door.

***Why just one each?*** Because it conveys the message that we don't want to produce too much waste of any kind, reducing is our main goal!

***Why next to each other?*** Because it has been shown to increase recycling! When we throw things away, it's often about convenience. If only trash bins are around, that's what we'll use, but if a recycling bin is right there next to the trash, we are more likely to use it.

***Why by the door?*** Because custodians have reported it is a big help to their daily collection.

## B) Post signs for guidance on or near the bins.

Signs give us a guide to what materials go where and help reduce mistakes. Many students are visual learners so signs with pictures are especially helpful. You and/or your students can make your own classroom signs, you can post the Arlington DPW recycling flyer above your bin, or you can request a sign from the Sustainability Coordinator.



## C) Contact us with your ideas, questions, and concerns, or to request equipment, materials, or classroom presentations.



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Available for...

- ❖ Classroom presentations or school assemblies
- ❖ Support for Green Teams and environmental clubs (activity ideas, guest speakers, fundraisers)
- ❖ Assistance setting up a lunchroom or classroom waste audit
- ❖ Equipment (like a new recycling bin) or materials (like signs or environmentally themed project ideas)
- ❖ Help organizing a school-wide Green Challenge or Competition
- ❖ Ideas for reducing waste and conserving natural resources at your school



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